

GREAT POND (Truro)

General Information:

This 17-acre natural great pond has an average depth of 14 feet and a maximum depth of 35 feet. Transparency is very good, extending to 14 feet, and aquatic vegetation is scarce. The bottom is composed primarily of sand. The shoreline is lightly developed with residential homes.

Great Pond is located just east of Route 6 within the Cape Cod National Seashore. Access is through an unmarked dirt road off of Route 6. Look for it just beyond Savage Road. Anglers must park along the shoulder of Route 6 and walk in. A steep dirt path leads to a shallow cove at the eastern end of the pond. Access is suitable only for wading anglers, canoes and lightweight car top boats.

This pond was reclaimed in 1958, 1966 and 1971. It was dominated by yellow perch at the time of the first reclamation; killifish and largemouth bass at the time of the second; and golden shiners and pumpkinseed sunfish at the time of the third. The pond was limed in 1973 to counteract the effects of acid rain. It was limed again in 1985 and a study was undertaken to determine effects of the treatment on fish and invertebrates. After the liming, smallmouth bass were able to reproduce successfully.

Fish Populations:

The last fisheries survey, conducted in 1990, found six species present: brook trout, brown bullhead, banded killifish, pumpkinseed sunfish, smallmouth bass and yellow perch.

Fishing:

This pond is stocked annually in the spring with brook trout. Good holdover brook trout, some exceeding one pound, were noted in the 1990 survey. These fish are very susceptible to garden worms fished near the bottom, or to flys, trolled streamers, small spinners and spoons fished at moderate depths. During high summer, look for the trout to be holding at depths of 18 to 21 feet.

Smallmouth bass up to 14 inches and a pound and a half were noted during the last survey, and larger ones are sure to occur.